

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: TAGUCHI et al.

Serial No.: Rule 53(b) of 09/127,960

Filed: September 8, 2003

For: **INSPECTING METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR REPEATED MICRO-MINIATURE PATTERNS**

Art Unit: Unassigned (2623 previously in parent application)

Examiner: Unassigned (S. Ahmed previously in parent application)

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

September 8, 2003

Sir:

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Specification

Amendments to the Claims

Remarks are provided following the amendments.